

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Varaprasad Vajjhala et al.

Serial No.: 09/977,511

Filed: October 12, 2001

Docket No.: 10011257-1

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES WITHIN AN INTERCONNECT DEVICE
ACCORDING TO A RESOURCE ALLOCATION TABLE

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Office Action mailed January 14, 2005. Claims 4 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-35 were rejected. With this Response, claims 1, 12, 16, 27, 28, 33, and 35 have been amended. Claims 1-3, 5-18, and 20-35 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 1-30, 33, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 12, 16, 28, and 35 for lack of antecedent basis for certain terms. With the above amendments, antecedent basis has been corrected in claims 1, 12, 16, 28, and 35.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 16, and 35 for the claim language not being explicitly clear as to whether the interconnect device performed certain functions. Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the method is performed in an interconnect device. Independent claim 16 has been amended to clarify that the system is in an interconnect device. Independent claim 35 has been amended to clarify that the claimed system is in an interconnect device.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 16, and 35 for the term resource consumer being indefinite. Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 16, and 35 to include language from original claims 4 and 19 that the plurality of resource consumers comprise a plurality of data streams supported by the interconnect device, wherein the resource capacity comprises bandwidth on a physical link shared by the plurality of data streams supported by the interconnect device. For clarity, independent claim 31 has also been amended to indicate that the plurality of resource consumers comprise a plurality of data streams, wherein the resource capacity comprises bandwidth on a physical link shared by the plurality of data streams.

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Varaprasad Vajjhala et al.

Serial No.: 09/977,511

Filed: October 12, 2001

Docket No.: 10011257-1

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES WITHIN AN INTERCONNECT DEVICE
ACCORDING TO A RESOURCE ALLOCATION TABLE

The Examiner rejected claim 28 because it was unclear whether it should be dependent on claim 17 or intended to be dependent on claim 27. Applicants have amended claim 28 to now depend from claim 27.

The Examiner rejected claim 33 because “VHDL” was indefinite because it did not define what this acronym stands for. Claim 33 has been amended to now clearly indicate that VHDL specifically refers to “Very high speed integrated circuit Hardware Description Language.”

In view of the above, claims 1-30, 33, and 35 are believed to be in form for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that rejections to these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be reconsidered, and the rejections be removed and these claims be allowed.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-31 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Angle et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,661,788 in view of the Rodeheffer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,614,764.

The Examiner rejected claims 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Angle et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,661,788 in view of the Rodeheffer et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,614,764, and further in view of the Greene U.S. Patent No. 6,631,419.

The Examiner admits that the Angle et al. patent fails to teach the limitations of independent claims 1, 16, 31, 35 of a list of resource consumers of the plurality of resource consumers, where the list is ordered in accordance with an order of appearance of a first allocation entry for a respective resource consumer within the resource allocation table. The Examiner states that the Rodeheffer et al. patent teaches this limitation.

Amended independent claims 1, 16, and 35 clarify that the plurality of resource consumers comprise a plurality of data streams supported by the interconnect device, wherein the resource capacity comprises bandwidth on a physical link shared by the plurality of data streams supported by the interconnect device. In addition, amended independent claim 31 clarifies that the plurality of resource consumers comprises a plurality of data streams, wherein the resource capacity comprises bandwidth on a physical link shared by the plurality of data streams.

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Varaprasad Vajjhala et al.

Serial No.: 09/977,511

Filed: October 12, 2001

Docket No.: 10011257-1

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES WITHIN AN INTERCONNECT DEVICE
ACCORDING TO A RESOURCE ALLOCATION TABLE

The Rodeheffer et al. patent does not teach or suggest the limitations of amended independent claims 1, 16, 31, and 35 of a ranking vector from a resource allocation table and comprising a list of resource consumers of the plurality of resource consumers, wherein the list is ordered in accordance with an order of appearance of a first allocation entry for a respective resource consumer within the resource allocation table, wherein the resource consumers comprise a plurality of data streams, and the resource capacity comprises bandwidth on a physical link shared by the plurality of data streams.

By contrast, the Rodeheffer et al. patent teaches a bridged network and method for performing bridged network topology acquisition. The bridged network topology acquisition in each of the smart bridges operates cooperatively with the bridged network topology acquisition in other smart bridges in order to create a total network report from most recent segment inventories. The bridged network topology acquisition includes propagation, collection, and distribution. The bridged network topology acquisition affords better management of the network topology changes. In one embodiment discussed in the Rodeheffer et al., at column 44, the bridged network topology acquisition is based on the “symmetry” property which is proved by considering that the weight of a path is simply the sum of the weights of its edges. One way to assign edge weights that satisfy edge weight properties is based on a total ordering of edges. The ordering can be derived from the order in which connections are listed in the total network report. Alternatively, the ordering can be derived by comparing the bridge and segment identifiers that describe connections, or any other deterministic way.

The above bridged network topology acquisition scheme taught in the Rodeheffer et al. patent in no way teaches or suggests the limitations of independent claims 1, 16, 31, and 35 of the list of resource consumers being ordered in accordance with an order of appearance of a first allocation entry for a respective resource consumer within the resource allocation table, wherein the resource consumers comprise a plurality of data streams and the resource capacity comprises bandwidth on a physical link shared by the plurality of data streams.

Therefore, the Angle et al. patent and the Rodeheffer et al. patent do not teach or suggest alone or in combination all the limitations of the method of independent claim 1, the system of independent claim 16, the machine-readable medium of independent claim 31, or the system of independent claim 35. In addition, dependent claims 2-3 and 5-15 further

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Varaprasad Vajjhala et al.

Serial No.: 09/977,511

Filed: October 12, 2001

Docket No.: 10011257-1

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES WITHIN AN INTERCONNECT DEVICE
ACCORDING TO A RESOURCE ALLOCATION TABLE

define patentably distinct independent claim 1; dependent claims 17-18 and 20-30 further define patentably distinct independent claim 16; and dependent claims 32-34 further define patentably distinct independent claim 31. Therefore, these dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections to claims 1-3, 5-18, and 20-35, and request allowance of these claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-3, 5-18, and 20-35 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-3, 5-18, and 20-35 is respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)(c). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Varaprasad Vajjhala et al.

Serial No.: 09/977,511

Filed: October 12, 2001

Docket No.: 10011257-1

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES WITHIN AN INTERCONNECT DEVICE
ACCORDING TO A RESOURCE ALLOCATION TABLE

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Patrick G. Billig at Telephone No. (612) 573-2003, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005 or Pamela L. Kee at Telephone No. (408) 553-3059, Facsimile No. (408) 553-3059. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

Agilent Technologies, Inc.
Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Department, M/S DL429
P.O. Box 7599
Loveland, CO 80537-0599

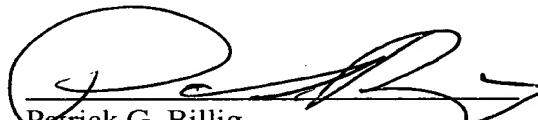
Respectfully submitted,

Varaprasad Vajjhala et al.,

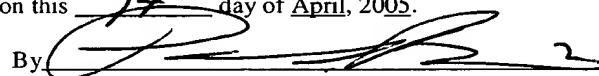
By their attorneys,

DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, PLLC
Fifth Street Towers, Suite 2250
100 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: (612) 573-2003
Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Date: 4-14-05
PGB:cmj


Patrick G. Billig
Reg. No. 38,080

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 14 day of April, 2005.

By 
Name: Patrick G. Billig